REMARKS

THE CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Applicants acknowledge that claims 6-9 and 25-74 are withdrawn because they are drawn to non-elected inventions and, accordingly, Applicants have canceled the above claims.

Applicants have amended claims 1, 5, 10, 14, and 12, and the specific amendments are addressed below.

Applicants have incorporated the scope of claim 2, in part, into claim 1 and canceled claim 2 without prejudice. Support for this amendment is found in specification paragraph 67-70 at pages 22-23 in the application as filed.

Applicants have amended claim 5 in response to the Examiner's rejection. Therein, Applicants have recited the specific compound structures and deleted reference to the compound number. Support for this amendment is found in specification, Table 1 at page 23-25.

Applicants have amended claims 3 and 4 to depend from claims 1 to reflect the present claim amendments. Applicants have amended claims 10 and 14 to depend from claims 1, and 3-5 to reflect the present claim amendments.

Applicants have amended claim 12 to delete non-elected subject matter, i.e. **II-D**.

None of the above amendments adds any new matter. These amendments are further discussed below in the context of the Examiner's Objections and rejections.

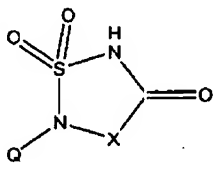
THE REJECTIONS

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 USC § 102 (e)

Claims, 1-5, 10-13 (in part), and 14-24 (in part) are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) for being anticipated by US Patent Publication No.: US 20040023974 A1 (hereinafter, "Coppola, et al."). The Examiner states that the present invention is

anticipated by Coppola, et al., wherein: **Q** is a C_{6-10} aryl group; **Tm** is a C_{1-6} alkylidene chain; **m** is one; and **X** is $-CH_2-$.

As addressed above in the amendments section, Applicants have amended claim 1 to recite a compound of formula **(I-A)**:



(I-A)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein: Q is an optionally substituted group selected from C_{1-8} aliphatic, C_{6-10} aryl, heteroaryl having 5-10 ring atoms, and heterocyclyl having 3-10 ring atoms; and X is selected from $-CH_2-$, -C(O)-, or $-CF_2-$. Thus, the above amendment renders this rejection moot.

Furthermore, claims 3-5, 10-13, and 14-24 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 1 and therefore they, too, are distinct from Coppola, et al. Accordingly, Applicants request that the Examiner withdraw this 35 USC § 102(e) rejection.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 USC § 102(b)

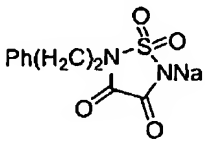
Claims, 1-5, 10-13 (in part), and 14-24 (in part) are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) for being anticipated by Mantegani, et al., "Synthesis and Antihypersensitive Activity of 2,4-Dioxoimidazolidin-yl and Perhydro-2,4-dioxopyrimidin-1-yl Ergoline Derivatives", IL Farmaco, 53(4): 293-304 (1998). Specifically, Mantegani, et. al. teaches the sulfonyl derivatives wherein: **Q** is an optionally substituted heterocyclic group having 6 ring atoms; **Tm** is a C1-6 alkylidene chain; **m** is one; and **X** is $-CH_2-$.

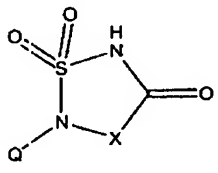
The above claims are further rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) for being anticipated by Albericio, et al., "Synthesis of a Sulfanydantoin Library", J. Comb. Chem.

2, 290-300 (May 2001). Specifically, Albericio, et al., teaches the sulfahydantoin wherein: **Q** is a C_{6-10} aryl group; **Tm** is a C_{1-6} alkylidene chain; **m** is one; and **X** is $-CH_2-$.

As discussed above, Applicants have amended claims so that **Q** is directly connected to the sulfhydantoin core, thereby rendering claims 1, 3-5, 10-13, and 14-24 distinct from both Mantegani, et al., and Albericio, et al. Accordingly, Applicants request that the Examiner withdraw this 35 USC § 102(b) rejection.

CLAIMS REJECTION – 35 USC § 103(a)

Claims 1-5, 10-13, and 14-24 stand rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lee, et al., "Intra- and Intermolecular a-Sulfamidoalkylation Reactions", J.Org.Chem. 55(25): 6098-6104 (1990). Specifically, Lee, et al., discloses the following compound  [compound 34, Scheme II, p. 6101], wherein **Q** is a C_{6-10} aryl group; **Tm** is a C_{1-6} alkylidene chain; m is one; and **X** is –CO-.

As discussed above, Applicants have amended claims so that **Q** is directly connected to the sulfhydantoin core, i.e.  (I-A). Thus, compounds of formula **I-A** do not have an alkylidene bridge between Q and the sulfhydantoin core. Applicants submit that the claimed invention is not rendered obvious by Lee. Accordingly, Applicants request that the Examiner withdraw this 35 USC § 103(a) rejection.

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CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 USC § 112

Claim 5 is rejected because of insufficient antecedent basis. As discussed above, Applicants have adopted the Examiner's suggestion and recited the specific compound structures and deleted reference that lacks of antecedent basis. Accordingly, Applicants request the Examiner withdraw this 35 USC § 112 rejection.

OBJECTIONS

Group II, claims 6-9, 10-13 (in part), 14-24 (in part), and Group III, claims 25-74 are objected for containing non-elected subject matter. As discussed above, Applicants have canceled claims 6-9, and 25-74, and amended claims 10-13 (in part) and 14-24 (in part) to remove non-elected subject matter. Accordingly, Applicants request the Examiner withdraw this objection.

CONCLUSION

Applicants request that the Examiner enter the above amendments, consider the accompanying remarks, and allow the pending claims to pass to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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